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nationals’ work ethics because they provide continuity and carry the work load when our military people are in an exercise nearly every month and when our troops rotate out each year,” he said.

To illustrate the enormity of the flight’s work, they currently oversee \$40-60 million of projects that are in various stages of progress. What’s more, there are projects valued at more than \$100 million in various stages of design.

The plans and program section is where construction requirements begin and are validated to ensure they fit in with Kunsan Air Base’s general construction plan, or “big picture,” said 1st Lt. Tobey Clarkin, the section’s chief.

“The general plan, which is updated annually and reaccomplished every five years, provides a roadmap to develop the base efficiently,” Clarkin said.

When a requirement comes in, the section’s two Korean employees, Kim, Ton Su and O, Sok Kun, develop a detailed document, a DD Form 1391, Military Construction (MILCON) Project Data. It describes a proposal’s size, cost and rational for approving the request.

“It’s very complicated paperwork because it is regulation driven,” said Kim. Although it’s detailed, it must be simple enough for anyone in the decision process to comprehend. It can make the difference in getting a project approved.

For example, in 2000 plans and programming prioritized more than \$180 million in fiscal 2001 to 2008 MILCON requirements – Kunsan’s largest program to date. Part of this included programming for four new 122-person dormitories, which brings the base up to speed

with Pacific Air Forces’ master dorm plan.

Once projects are funded, plans and programs work is complete and the proposal moves into the design phase. Some projects are designed in-house by the flight’s eight engineers and drafters who have experience in architecture, mechanical, electrical and civil (structures/pavement) engineering. Many projects are sent to the Far East District Army Corps of Engineers in Seoul.

“We have an awesome relationship with the Army Corps of Engineer,” said 1st Lt. Thomas Veselka, design section chief. “They do a great majority of the major projects here on base.”

For projects that the flight design in-house, they provide the pivot point from an idea to a final product, said Veselka. Typical in-house designed projects include road paving, water-line replacement and small building interior renovations. Recent projects include repairing a parallel flightline taxiway and replacing the north-side runway overruns.

The bulk of their work involves design reviews, where they bring the customer and base agencies together to ensure the design meets user requirements, yet adheres to safety, security and

U.S. building codes. A thorough review early in the design process is important because major changes when the project is under construction can mean delays and extra cost. Projects are typically reviewed at the 30, 60 and 90 percent design stages, Veselka said. They expedited \$17 million in high-visibility projects through four base-led design reviews, which slashed design times by 75 percent, and resulted in zero project changes after the 15 percent design stages.

An example of their impact in 2000 is they worked from concept to 100-percent design several projects when \$18 million in Kosovo supplemental MILCON funds were awarded. The funds were given to Kunsan because the Defense Department withdrew construction funds to help fund the Kosovo conflict. Projects included 30 new maintenance igloos, a maintenance facility and a munitions control administration facility, according to Ziadie. Without the Kosovo award, these projects would have taken years through the normal MILCON funding channels.

The flight’s third section, construction, is where the “rubber meets the road,” according to Capt. Madison Morris, section chief. Once projects are awarded to a contractor, the construction section provides quality control and

assists with unforeseen problems that occur. Because Korean contractors are performing the work, and building codes are different in Korea, Madison’s 10-member staff ensures construction meets U.S. codes.

What’s more, because Kunsan is an older base, when contractors begin work they often encounter obstacles, such as unmapped water or electrical lines. Construction section employees then use their ingenuity to solve the unexpected problem with the least impact to the overall project, Madison said. His section currently overseas 43 projects.

Taking the design to reality is where construction excels.

“We ensure that projects on customers’ wish lists become reality,” Madison said.

Transforming concepts into realities is where the engineering flight excels, even with Kunsan’s aging infrastructure and when they lose a week each month to perform wartime duties during combat exercises here.

“Although much of our work is not seen by current Kunsan members, we are trying to make the base better for the next group of Wolf Pack warriors,” Ziadie said. “With all the ongoing projects, and those programmed, this is going to be an awesome base to be assigned to.”

The engineering flight’s work is behind the scenes, but their mark of excellence is stamped with every new construction project at Kunsan. Even with the high operations tempo and remote location, they proved the legendary “Red Devils” engineering flight is the best in the Air Force.



Newcomers

The following are newcomers to Kunsan who arrived from Dec. 21 to Jan. 4. Welcome to the Wolf Pack!

**8th Fighter Wing**  
Staff Sgt. Charles Vonnordheim  
Senior Airman Teni Hodge

**8th Civil Engineer Squadron**  
Staff Sgt. Erik Dupree  
Staff Sgt. Gary Kujan  
Staff Sgt. Craig Milton  
Staff Sgt. William Smith  
Staff Sgt. Demitrius Lewis  
Staff Sgt. Ralph Cannon  
Airman 1st Class Elvan Rowe

**8th Comptroller Squadron**  
Master Sgt. Eileen Boles  
Staff Sgt. Krista Astrauskas  
Staff Sgt. Lisa Guilluame

**8th Communications Squadron**  
Maj. Christina Anderson  
Staff Sgt. Kris Braddock  
Staff Sgt. John Gibson  
Staff Sgt. Christopher Gregoire  
Staff Sgt. Richard Ortiz  
Staff Sgt. Jason Rootes

Senior Airman Thalia Mitchell,  
Airman 1st Class Rachel Vicich  
Airman 1st Class Yvonne Leyba

**8th Mission Support Squadron**  
Capt. Niko Bronson  
Airman 1st Class Roxana Gomez

**8th Security Forces Squadron**  
Master Sgt. Bernard Williams  
Staff Sgt. Ronald Berry  
Staff Sgt. Joseph Williams  
Staff Sgt. Anthony Lawrence  
Senior Airman James Crites  
Airman Basic Jesse Roberts

**8th Services Squadron**  
Staff Sgt. Tiffani Johnson  
Senior Airman Tenell Mosley

**8th Medical Operations Squadron**  
2nd Lt. Robbie Wheeler  
Staff Sgt. Eleanor Amiscosa  
Staff Sgt. Gregory Berry  
Staff Sgt. Patrick Hastings  
Staff Sgt. David Roberson

**8th Medical Support Squadron**  
Staff Sgt. Mary Freeman

Airman 1st Class Angela Mims

**8th Maintenance Squadron**  
Tech. Sgt. Duane Helton  
Tech. Sgt. John Hyde  
Tech. Sgt. Steve Roman  
Tech. Sgt. Thomas Wickre  
Staff Sgt. Heather Summerlot  
Staff Sgt. Lester Jackson  
Staff Sgt. Michael Tatsch  
Staff Sgt. Charles Warren  
Senior Airman Michael Wood  
Airman 1st Class Kevin Anderson  
Airman 1st Class Brian Smith  
Airman Basic Roberto Trevino  
Airman Basic Joe Smith

**8th Supply Squadron**  
Master Sgt. Robert Hunt  
Master Sgt. Pete Lopez  
Staff Sgt. Christopher Howard  
Staff Sgt. Edward North  
Airman Basic Sheyla Villegas  
Airman Basic Tamara Sims

**8th Transportation Squadron**  
Master Sgt. Rodney Phillips  
Staff Sgt. Miguel Baca  
Staff Sgt. Chad Schneider

**35th Fighter Squadron**  
Master Sgt. William Lamb  
Tech. Sgt. Kevin Eads  
Tech. Sgt. Michael Swaim  
Tech. Sgt. John Mitchell  
Staff Sgt. Karen Maimone  
Staff Sgt. Dante Roux  
Staff Sgt. Todd Washler  
Senior Airman Christopher Lenon  
Senior Airman Christopher Smith

**8th Operations Group**  
Staff Sgt. David Cooper

**8th Operations Support Squadron**  
Master Sgt. Curt Hicks  
Tech. Sgt. Roy Hamilton  
Tech. Sgt. Jerald Hatcher  
Staff Sgt. Tenika Hodge

**80th Fighter Squadron**  
Maj. James Barger  
Master Sgt. David Seigler  
Staff Sgt. Donnie Cross  
Staff Sgt. Caleb Dollar  
Staff Sgt. Michael Johnson  
Staff Sgt. Philip Molaison  
Staff Sgt. Matthew Sossei  
Staff Sgt. Larry Whenrey